

claimed can be practiced by another materially different apparatus or by hand, or (2) that the apparatus as claimed can be used to practice another and materially different process. If the apparatus claims include a claim to "means" for practicing the process, the claim is a linking claim and must be examined with the elected invention.

SECTION 806.05(e).

In response to the restriction of the claims, Applicant elects Group II and respectfully traverses the restriction of the claims. In this instance, claim 18 links claims 19-30 to the apparatus invention. Accordingly, the MPEP requires that the restriction be removed.

In view of the above, Applicant submits that each of the claims is in condition for allowance. Reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejections, along with a favorable response, are earnestly requested.

Should there be any remaining issues that could be readily addressed over the telephone, the Examiner is encouraged to contact the undersigned at 651/686-6633.

CRAWFORD PLLC
1270 Northland Drive, Suite 390
St. Paul, Minnesota 55120
(651) 686-6633

By: 

Name: Robert J. Crawford

Reg. No.: 32,122